

Message Text

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15

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 L-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

RSC-01 AID-05 IGA-01 MC-01 DRC-01 ACDA-05 /030 W

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R 170833Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6487

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//DSAA//

DA WASHDC//DALO-8//

CINCPAC

CSAF WASHDC //LGYP//

JUSMAG-K KOREA

COMUSK SEOUL KOREA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6908

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KS

SUBJECT: LETTERS OF OFFER FOR HELOS AND CBU-58 WEAPONS SYSTEMS

REF: STATE 220681

1. EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED QUESTION OF INTRODUCING COBRA HELICOPTERS AND THE CLUSTER BOMB UNIT (CBU) INTO ROK FORCES. NEITHER WEAPONS SYSTEM IS IN FACT NEW TO OUR OVERALL MODERNIZATION EFFORT, AND WE BELIEVE BOTH SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE INCLUDED IN MOD PROGRAM.

2. THE CBU WEAPONS SYSTEM WAS NOT A SPECIFIED LINE ITEM WITHIN THE ORIGINAL FIVE YEAR MODERNIZATION PLAN, BUT WAS INCLUDED IN MOD PROGRAM AS ONE OF THE ITEMS IN THE WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS (WRM) DOLLAR ROLL LINE FOR ROKAF. LISTING OF ITEMS IN THE ROLL LINE WAS ACCOMPLISHED JOINTLY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF JUSMAG-K, THE US 314TH AIR DIVISION, AND ROKAF. THE RECOMMENDED WRM LEVELS ARE BASED UPON MAINTAINING AN IN-COUNTRY INVENTORY CAPABILITY FOR 15 DAYS SUSTAINED COMBAT OPERATIONS. THE REQUIREMENT FOR CBU HAS CONTINUED
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SINCE THE ORIGINAL MODERNIZATION PLAN AND REMAINS VALID

TODAY. AND THE APR 74 JOINT ROK/US AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT ON ROKF MODERNIZATION REAFFIRMED THE NEED FOR CBU, ALTHOUGH IT WAS APPARENTLY NOT IDENTIFIED IN THE SUMMARY REPORT PROVIDED DEPARTMENT.

3. AS FOR THE COBRA THE ORIGINAL MOD PLAN PROVIDED FOR ONE GUNSHIP PLATOON OF EIGHT UH-1B FORECAST FOR FY 72 DELIVERY. REDUCED GRANT AID CEILINGS CAUSED THE GUNSHIPS TO BE REPROGRAMMED IN FY 73 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS. JUSMAG-K INPUT TO THE KOREA FORCES REQUIREMENTS STUDY POINTED OUT THAT THE MOD PLAN ESTABLISHED A REQUIREMENT FOR AID MOBILITY HELICOPTERS AND EIGHT UH-1H/XM 93E-1 GUNSHIPS. THE JOINT ROK/US AD HOC COMMITTEE IN ITS EARLY 1974 REVIEW OF ROKF MODERNIZATION AGREED THAT THE GUNSHIP PLATOON WAS STILL REQUIRED. THE COMMITTEE REPORT REFLECTED THAT THE AH-1G/Q MODEL COBRA VICE UH-1H/XM 93-1 GUNSHIPS WAS REQUIRED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO RAPIDLY CHANGING SITUATIONS AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FIREPOWER IN SUPPORTING AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS.

4. IN EMBASSY VIEW THE CBU AND COBRA REQUIREMENTS ARE IN FACT NOT NEW, BUT HAVE BEEN A PART OF ROKF MOD PLAN SINCE ITS INCEPTION AND WE SEE NO REASON TO DROP THESE ITEMS AT THIS TIME. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS FAVORABLE ACTION REGARDING THE ROK REQUEST FOR LETTER OF OFFER.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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